



photo by Bill Wendt

## Supporting SCHIP

Members of the UNO College Democrats joined others near the OneWorld Community Health Center in south Omaha Wednesday to protest President Bush's attendance at a fundraiser for senatorial candidate Mike Johanns as well as Bush's failure to support the SCHIP program to provide health care benefits to more youth.

## Assessment program to help prospective students, parents compare institutions

TAYLOR MULLER  
NEWS EDITOR

UNO is one of 17 public universities nationwide to participate in the Voluntary Assessment Program, an effort to improve accountability and transparency in public institutions across the nation.

As part of the program, each university has a College Portrait, which allows for easier comparison and greater accessibility of information on a wide range of universities. UNO is joining the ranks of several colleges, including Colorado State University, the University of Kansas, several University of California campuses and the University of Minnesota.

"This data is not to be used for rankings, it is to be used only to compare," said Director of Institutional Research Linda Mannering.

Focusing on issues such as cost of attending, graduation rates, results from national student surveys and characteristics of institutions as well as students, the College Portrait is an easy and effective tool for students, parents, campus staff and faculty as well as lawmakers, said Mannering.

"We want to be competitive and this also addresses the issue of engagement. Extra-curricular activities, programs, mentoring internships: These are all opportunities that those who do not attend

# 'Deeply Saddened'

Shooting at Westroads results in eight deaths, five additional injured persons; gunman commits suicide

SCOTT STEWART  
EDITOR IN CHIEF  
&  
TAYLOR MULLER  
NEWS EDITOR

Nearly four miles from UNO's Dodge Street campus, Nebraska witnessed its single deadliest shooting in state history on Wednesday.

Armed with an SKS assault rifle, a man opened fire shortly before 2 p.m. in the Von Maur department store at Westroads Mall, killing eight people and leaving at least five others wounded.

The murder victims included five females and three males, Omaha Police Chief Thomas Warren said in a press conference Wednesday night. Warren refused to comment on whether any of the victims were children.

In addition to the eight killed, two other victims were still in critical condition on Wednesday night.

"[Targeting] appears to be very random and without provocation," Warren said.

Sarpy County sheriffs identified the shooter as Robert A. Hawkins, 20, of Bellevue. Hawkins had attended Papillion-La Vista High School, but withdrew in March according to the *Omaha World-Herald*.

Television station KETV reported that Hawkins' mother brought Sarpy County sheriffs a suicide note saying that Hawkins planned to "go out in style" and was "going to go out and be famous."

Sarpy County sheriffs executed a warrant to search a house where Hawkins had been staying.

Omaha police spokesperson Teresa Negron said



photo by Michelle Bishop

Two women stand outside Westroads Mall Wednesday afternoon. The Von Maur store was the site of a shooting Wednesday afternoon. A gunman killed eight people and wounded at least five others before turning the gun on himself.

Hawkins died at the scene. Warren said the incident appeared to be premeditated and that police believe "there was one shooter and one shooter only."

Hawkins is believed to have committed suicide before police arrived.

"The person we believe to be the shooter has died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound," Negron said at a press conference.

### Voices from Westroads

Sen Le, a tailor at Von Maur, was on the third floor of the building when he heard what sounded like gunshots.

"I heard a sound, like somebody with a hammer," said Le. "I didn't know, and then somebody run through [and said] 'Oh, they're shooting, they're shooting.'"

According to the *Omaha World-Herald*, the first 911 call of an active shooting came in at 1:42 p.m. Omaha police responded to the scene within six minutes.

"Within three minutes of being told [there was a shooter], I saw about 50 cop cars come zooming down the street, helicopters all over," said Leah Margolis, a UNO senior and an intern with the American Cancer Society across the street from the mall. "People came running out of the mall with their hands up. They were just coming out in clumps."



photo by Michelle Bishop

See **ASSESSMENT:** Page 3 Police block off a parking lot near Von Maur after a deadly shooting Wednesday.

See **SHOOTER:** Page 4





# News

Taylor Muller | News Editor

Page 2

news@unogateway.com | December 7, 2007

## Crime Log

COMPILED BY  
CASSY LOSEKE  
CONTRIBUTOR

### Sunday, Nov. 25 (Amended Nov. 27)

**12:28 a.m.** While on patrol of Scott Village, Campus Security investigated several individuals on a balcony making loud noise. Investigation discovered the strong odor of marijuana. The Omaha police were requested. Two visitors were cited for marijuana under one ounce, drug paraphernalia and minor in possession. Two students were cited for minor in possession and five visitors were cited for minor in possession. Omaha Police Department confiscated the drugs and paraphernalia, two pellet guns were confiscated by Resident Assistants. The students were referred for disciplinary action. The visitors left campus.

**12:37 a.m.** While on patrol of University Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred for disciplinary action. The visitors left campus.

**4:48 a.m.** While on patrol of Scott Village, Campus Security investigated two individuals behaving strangely in a parked vehicle in Lot 9. Further

investigation disclosed a total of five individuals involved with a liquor law violation at Scott Village. Four of the individuals were visitors and one was a student. The student was referred for disciplinary action. The visitors left campus.

### Monday, Nov. 26

**10 a.m.** Staff member reported the theft of university property from the center location. The incident occurred between 10 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 21, and 8 a.m., Monday, Nov. 26.

### Thursday, Nov. 29

**8:45 a.m.** Visitor reported theft of their vehicle from Lot 9. Incident occurred between Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 9:15 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 29, at 8:30 a.m.

### Saturday, Dec. 1

**3:03 a.m.** While on patrol, Campus Security investigated loud noises at Scott Village. Further investigation discovered two students and a visitor consuming alcohol. The students were referred for disciplinary action. The visitor was removed from

campus.

**7:58 p.m.** A student reported the theft of personal property from University Village. The incident occurred between 8 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 25 and 7:58 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1.

**7:58 p.m.** A student reported the theft of personal property from University Village. The incident occurred between 8 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 25 and 7:58 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1.

### Sunday, Dec. 2

**3:30 p.m.** A student reported the theft of personal property from Criss Library. The incident occurred between 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

**4:00 a.m.** While on patrol, Campus Security discovered a University Village suite with the front door standing open. Further investigation discovered handgun ammunition and empty beer bottles. Two residents were referred for disciplinary action.

### Monday, Dec. 3

**4:30 p.m.** A student reported the theft of personal property from Criss Library. The incident occurred between 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

## News You Can Use

COMPILED BY  
CASSY LOSEKE  
CONTRIBUTOR

### **Dialogue offers chance to hear from Muslim women**

**Who:** Muslim Student Association.

**What:** Difficult Dialogue discussion on "Women in Islam."

**Where:** Milo Bail Student Center Dodge Room.

**When:** Today, Friday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m.

**Why:** To help clear away misconceptions about Muslim women by listening to actual Muslims talk about their lifestyles without media distortion.

**How:** Free and open to campus community.

### **Participants needed for Ph.D. research study**

**Who:** Faculty, staff, students or community members 19 years or older who can read and write English.

**What:** Research study.

**Where:** Online (30-45 minutes) and in-person (30-60 minutes).

**When:** In-person session held according to schedule of participants.

**Why:** To enable a UNO student to complete her thesis while earning a \$10 gift certificate (for the online portion) and \$20 in cash (for the in-person portion).

**How:** Begin the online session at [surveymonkey.com/UNOHermanDissertation](http://surveymonkey.com/UNOHermanDissertation).

### **ITS offers training to transition campus to new Office suite**

**Who:** Information Technology Services.

**What:** Hands-on training sessions in Microsoft Office 2007.

**Where:** Word session in Room 007R of Roskens Hall.

**When:** Word session from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 13.

**Why:** To improve your ability to transition from Microsoft Office 2003 to the latest version, which was installed in UNO computer labs at the beginning of the fall semester.

**How:** Visit [api.unomaha.edu/calendar.php](http://api.unomaha.edu/calendar.php); select 'December' from the drop-down menu and click 'go'; enter a SAP personal number; click 'sign up'; and click 'OK' to confirm.

### **PRSSA launches campus Toys for Tots campaign**

**Who:** UNO Chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America and the School of Communication.

**What:** Donation drive for U.S. Marine's Toys for Tots campaign.

**Where:** Room 140 of Arts and Sciences Hall.

**When:** Now through Dec. 21.

**Why:** To provide new toys to needy children in the Omaha area.

**How:** Drop off your donations to the campaign location.

### **Kwanza luncheon scheduled for today**

**Who:** Student Programming Organization.

**What:** Kwanzaa luncheon.

**Where:** Milo Bail Student Center Fireplace Lounge.

**When:** Today, Friday, Dec. 7, 11:30 a.m.

**Why:** To celebrate cultural diversity on campus.

**How:** Free and open to campus community.

### **Finals week prep seminar scheduled**

**Who:** UNO Counseling Center.

**What:** Seminar on preparing for finals week.

**Where:** Milo Bail Student Center's Dodge Room A.

**When:** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 13.

**Why:** To help stressed-out students perform better during the end of the semester.

**How:** Attend the seminar, which is free to UNO students, faculty and staff.

### **Registration for Kaplan MCAT under way**

**Who:** Association of American Medical Colleges.

**What:** Registration for the medical school admissions exam for April and May test dates.

**Where:** [kaptest.com](http://kaptest.com).

**When:** Today, Friday, Dec. 7.

**Why:** To register pre-medical students to take the admissions exam in order to be admitted to medical school.

**How:** Look online at the website listed above to register for the test.

### **Salvation Army collecting food, funds during food fight**

**Who:** Salvation Army.

**What:** Food drive.

**Where:** UNO, UNMC, First Data, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, West Asset Management, Travel and Transport as well as the College of St. Mary.

**When:** Today through Dec. 14.

**Why:** To raise funds and food for the non-profit organization.

**How:** Donate non-perishables by putting food in blue bins around campus or at other locations, including Hy-Vee.

### **Maverickland blog has new home**

**Who:** University Affairs.

**What:** New location for the Maverickland blog.

**Where:** [maverickland.unomaha.edu](http://maverickland.unomaha.edu).

**When:** Today, Dec. 7.

**Why:** To raise awareness of UNO activities and events.

**How:** Go online to [maverickland.unomaha.edu](http://maverickland.unomaha.edu) to find information about UNO events.

### **Child Care Center calls for Giving Tree donations**

**Who:** Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women & UNO Child Care Center.

**What:** Donation drive.

**Where:** Child Care Center, near the Thompson Alumni Center.

**When:** Now through end of semester.

**Why:** To assist the children supported by the Child Care Center.

**How:** Visit the Child Care Center to view the giving tree or go online to [mbsc.unomaha.edu/unoccc/ccannouncement.php](http://mbsc.unomaha.edu/unoccc/ccannouncement.php) for a list of requested supplies.

### **Video equipment available from library**

**Who:** Criss Library.


**What:** Three Sony Handycam video cameras and tripods available for use outside the library.

**Where:** Circulation Desk.

**When:** Cameras are available for three-day loans with renewals possible.

**Why:** To allow faculty, staff and students to learn how to utilize audiovisual equipment.

**How:** Bring your MavCard to the Circulation Desk and complete a checkout form.



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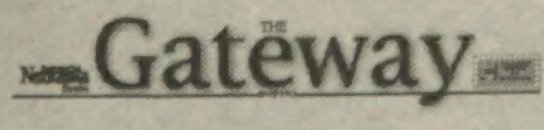
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# USO-style big band concert brings '40s post-war flare to campus

JILLIAN WHITNEY  
STAFF WRITER

UNO's Strauss Performing Arts Center was transported back to the 1940s by the AVI8ORS Ensemble, a group that performs authentic '40s style music of the World War II era. The group performed a mixture of USO-themed songs and original Christmas music in its "A Red, Blue and White Christmas" concert on Tuesday.

The concert was the AVI8ORS first Christmas concert to have a different flavor than their usual USO style. The concert was performed as a skit progressing from before World War II to the post-war period.

The ensemble was created in 1999 by its director and lead male vocalist, Rob Moser, manager of Air Operations in UNO's Aviation Institute.

The group consists of eight members; four vocalists, three instrumentalists and a professional sound engineer. The singers in the group include Ardeth Elsberry, Pam Kragt and Diane Emanuel. Tim Tyler plays piano for the group, Jerry DeVore is the bassist and Austin Elsberry plays drums. Doug Penington is the group's sound engineer.

The AVI8ORS goal is to keep musical memories alive and honor the sacrifices of servicemen and women during the Second World War, said Moser.

"Our concerts are a legitimate World War II show that just takes people back and makes them remember another time. People come up to me and say 'You sound just like we turned on a radio in 1941,' and there is nothing better people could say because that is exactly what we are trying to accomplish," said Moser.

Within its performance, the AVI8ORS endeavor to recreate the unique sounds, styles, rhythms and harmonies of the musicians who topped the charts in

the '40s.

"To make things more authentic we dress in ... uniforms. We also have gone back and hired arrangers to arrange all our music to sound exactly like the original artists. So we literally look and sound exactly as if you were in 1941," Moser said. "The reason that groups aren't doing this kind of stuff anymore is because it is extremely difficult music to sing. It takes very good singers and just tons of rehearsal, but once you put it all together it sounds very vintage and authentic."

Bob Reisser, a World War II veteran and UNO alumnus, said the music brought back memories of the war.

"I loved the concert. I was a pilot in World War II and all that music was popular when I was overseas. I love Robert Moser and his group, their music is very authentic to that time period," said Reisser.

John Linke, an audience member from Norfolk, said he enjoyed the music because it reminded him of his childhood.

"I thought the concert was great. I love the music, even though it was a little before my time, I remember it because it was on the radio when I grew up and the group just does a wonderful job," said Linke.

Elsberry said being part of the ensemble gave her and others a chance to reflect.

"Of course I want people to love our music, I want them to remember the harmonies, I want them to appreciate the

fact that there was a kind of music that was written because of a single event, World War II," said Elsberry. "But beyond that I think it's even more important to talk to your family members that were a part of 'The Greatest Generation' and get their stories written down."



photo by Bill Wendt

The AVI8ORS sang Christmas carols while clad in WWII-era clothing Tuesday night in the Strauss Performing Arts Center.

From **ASSESSMENT**: Page 1

college might not have," said Mannering. "It goes beyond learning, so that's why we talk about the word engagement, it means being engaged at the student level with the faculty, staff."

The program is a joint effort by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. Mannering said that by September 2008, there would be hundreds of colleges participating in the program.

Available online at [unoportfolio.unomaha.edu/vsa](http://unoportfolio.unomaha.edu/vsa), UNO's portrait provides a glimpse into the university.

"We need to make sure we're using our resources wisely and reacting to the effectiveness of our mission. We have not always demonstrated well how effective we are as educators," said Mannering. "Can we show the connection, more clearly, between the resources we receive and the quality of education we provide?"



## UPCOMING GAMES:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>  
(TODAY)

MAVS

VS.

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE  
(GAME ONE)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>  
(TOMORROW)

MAVS

VS.

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE  
(GAME TWO)

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#### #3 TOTALLY TUNA<sup>®</sup>

Fresh housemade tuna, mixed with celery, onions, and our tasty sauce, then topped with alfalfa sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, and tomato. (My tuna rocks!)

#### #4 TURKEY TOM<sup>®</sup>

Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)

#### #5 VITO<sup>®</sup>

The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)

#### #6 VEGETARIAN

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#### J.J.B.L.T.<sup>™</sup>

Bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.  
(The only better BLT is mama's BLT)

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Any Sub minus the veggies and sauce

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- SLIM 2 Roast Beef
- SLIM 3 Tuna salad
- SLIM 4 Turkey breast
- SLIM 5 Salami, capicola, cheese
- SLIM 6 Double provolone

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- ★ Soda Pop
- ★ Giant chocolate chip or oatmeal raisin cookie
- ★ Real potato chips or jumbo kosher dill pickle
- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
- ★ Hot Peppers

### FREEBIES (SUBS & CLUBS ONLY)

Onion, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, tomato, mayo, sliced cucumber, Dijon mustard, oil & vinegar, and oregano.

### THE J.J. GARGANTUAN<sup>™</sup>

This sandwich was invented by Jimmy John's brother Huey. It's huge enough to feed the hungriest of all humans! Tons of genoa salami, sliced smoked ham, capicola, roast beef, turkey & provolone, jammed into one of our homemade French buns then smothered with onions, mayo, lettuce, tomato, & our homemade Italian dressing.

OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER, THAT'S ALL! I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES, BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET, BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

Jimmy John

### GIANT CLUB SANDWICHES

My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it on my fresh baked thick sliced 7-grain bread or my famous homemade french bread!

#### #7 GOURMET SMOKED HAM CLUB

A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#### #8 BILLY CLUB<sup>®</sup>

Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese, Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#### #9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB<sup>®</sup>

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#### #10 HUNTER'S CLUB<sup>®</sup>

A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#### #11 COUNTRY CLUB<sup>®</sup>

Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#### #12 BEACH CLUB<sup>®</sup>

Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#### #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB<sup>®</sup>

Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)

#### #14 BOOTLEGGER CLUB<sup>®</sup>

Roast beef, turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. An American classic, certainly not invented by J.J. but definitely tweaked and fine-tuned to perfection!

#### #15 CLUB TUNA<sup>®</sup>

The same as our #3 Totally Tuna except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.

#### #16 CLUB LULU<sup>™</sup>

Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)



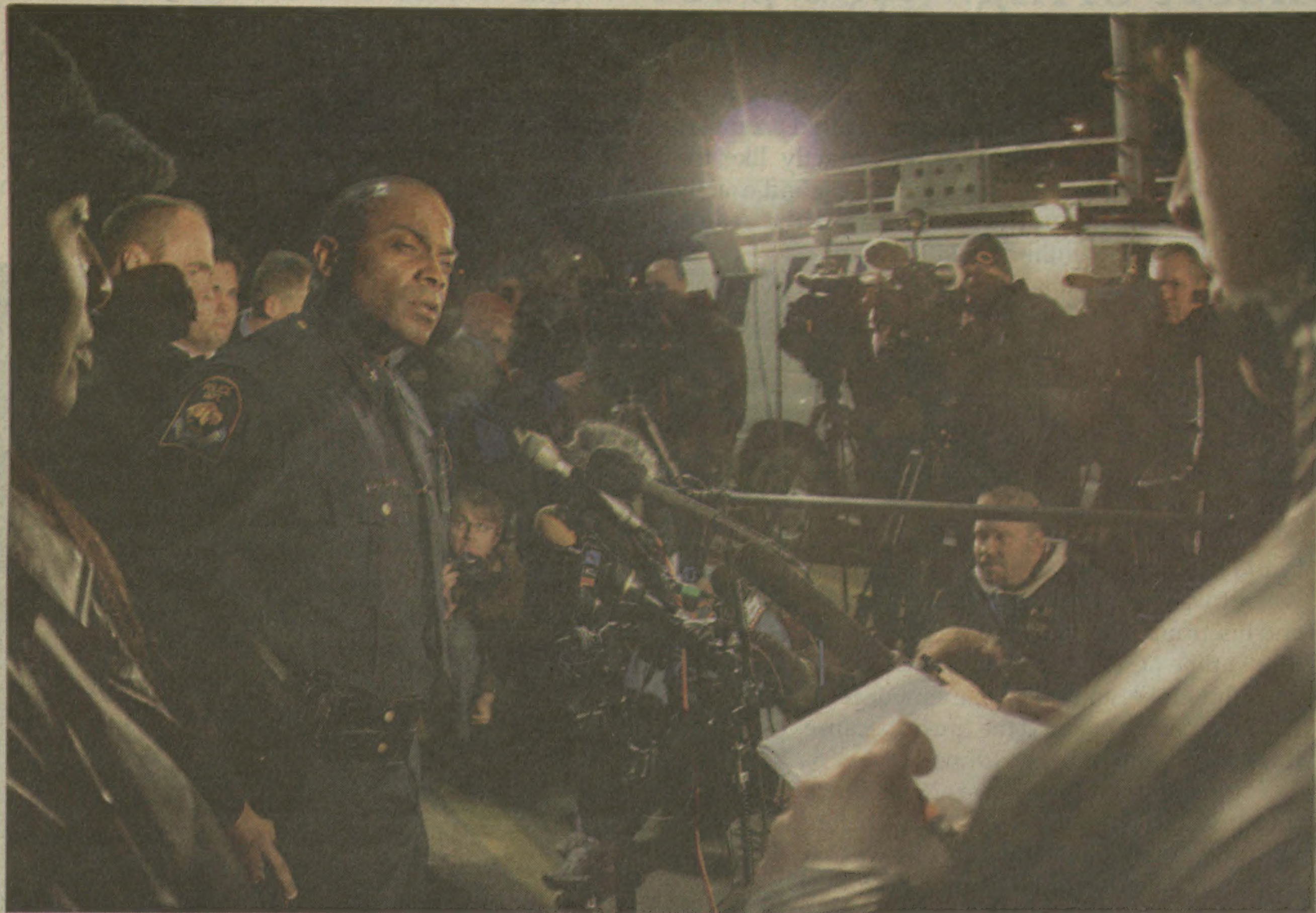
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From **SHOOTER:** Page 1

Omaha Police Chief Thomas Warren speaks to the media in the parking lot of Westroads Mall Wednesday night. Warren said the murder victims included five females and three males, two other victims were still in critical condition.

photo by Michelle Bishop



photo by Michelle Bishop

Police tape blocks off Westroads Mall near J.C. Penney's and Dick's Wednesday night after a shooting inside the Von Maur department store earlier that afternoon.

Le said he had heard four or five shots, and then the shooting stopped for a moment. It then resumed.

"After that the police get into the room, [they said] 'Raise your hands and come out' and we were led out," said Le.

Police put the mall's more than 125 stores under lockdown until the area was secured.

"Everybody was very scared. ... We didn't know where he was at, he could have come across the street," said Margolis. "There was a lot of tension, uncomfortable humor. In all reality everyone was scared."

Glen Kennedy, a senior physics major, said he was shopping before going to work at J.C. Penney when he heard a yell and the store owner said there was a shooting. After a few minutes, the shop owner let Kennedy and others in the store leave.

"I was getting ready to go to work, down near J.C. Penney - went over there to work at 2 p.m. I went down there, and my boss was saying he hadn't closed up his shop; there was nobody there," Kennedy said. "[Then]

actually at the mall [being] led out by the SWAT team. [It was] very surreal."

#### Getting the Word Out

Assistant Manager of Campus Security Paul Kosel and Assistant Director of Media Relations Wendy Townley both said no one had made the decision to utilize UNO's new emergency text-messaging system.

"Nobody has contacted [Campus Security] to use that service," Kosel said Wednesday afternoon.

Nevertheless, some area secondary schools went on lockdown Wednesday, including some Omaha Public Schools, Creighton Prep and St. Pius/St. Leo, according to the *Omaha World-Herald*.

As of press time Wednesday, university officials were planning to send out an e-mail to all university users reminding everyone about counseling services available on campus. Director of UNO's Counseling Center Marti Rosen-Atherton said no one had come in with regards to the incident on Wednesday afternoon.

UNO students received word of the shooting through waves of text messages, cell phone calls, e-mails and other communications as well as coverage of shooting, which made national headlines.

However, students were not the only ones receiving word about the shooting via cell phones. Stacie Schrieber, a customer sales lead at Victoria's Secret at Westroads, left only 12 minutes before shots rang out.

"It was surreal. I worked this morning," Schrieber said. "I opened the store at 8:30 a.m. and left the store at 1:30 p.m."

Schrieber, a junior marketing, management and public relations major, went on to say her mom called her, prompting her to call her store manager.

"They were wondering why people were shutting their gates," Schrieber said. "No mall security or anyone came to tell them. ... One of the girls on our management team was upset by that."

#### Other Incidents

Recently, malls have been the targets of several shootings nationwide, including Wednesday's tragedy at Westroads.

Last week, on Nov. 26, a gunman tried to rob a security guard working on an ATM machine at the Arbor Place Mall in Douglasville, Ga. The next day, a man fatally shot his girlfriend and killed himself at the Greenspoint Mall in Houston.

On April 29, two people were killed and a police officer was wounded by a gunman at Ward Parkway Center, about nine miles south of downtown Kansas City, Mo. That gunman was also shot and killed by police.

On Feb. 12, five people were killed by a gunman at Trolley Square Mall in Salt Lake City, Utah. The gunman was shot and killed by police, including an off-duty police officer.

This year has also seen the deadliest shooting in recent U.S. history, with 32 people losing their lives to Cho Seung-Hui during the Virginia Tech massacre. Cho committed suicide after the murders.

In the metro area, concerns over gun violence have come to a head. Protests have taken place, and public pressure for preventing shootings has been increasing as incident rates continue to rise.

## President Bush

President Bush attended a fundraiser for former Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns, a candidate for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate, on Wednesday. Bush left town about an hour before the massacre at Westroads Mall. However, his press secretary made the following release:

"The President is deeply saddened by the shootings in Omaha, Nebraska, earlier today. His thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families this evening. Having just visited with so many members of the community in Omaha today, the President is confident that they will pull together to comfort one another as they deal with this terrible tragedy."



photo by Patrick Doty

Police Chief Thomas Warren, Deputy Police Chief Eric Buske and City Council President Dan Welch address the public at a press conference on Wednesday night.



photo by Michelle Bishop

Police officers block off an entrance to a Westroads Mall parking lot after a gunman killed eight people, including himself.



# Arts & Leisure

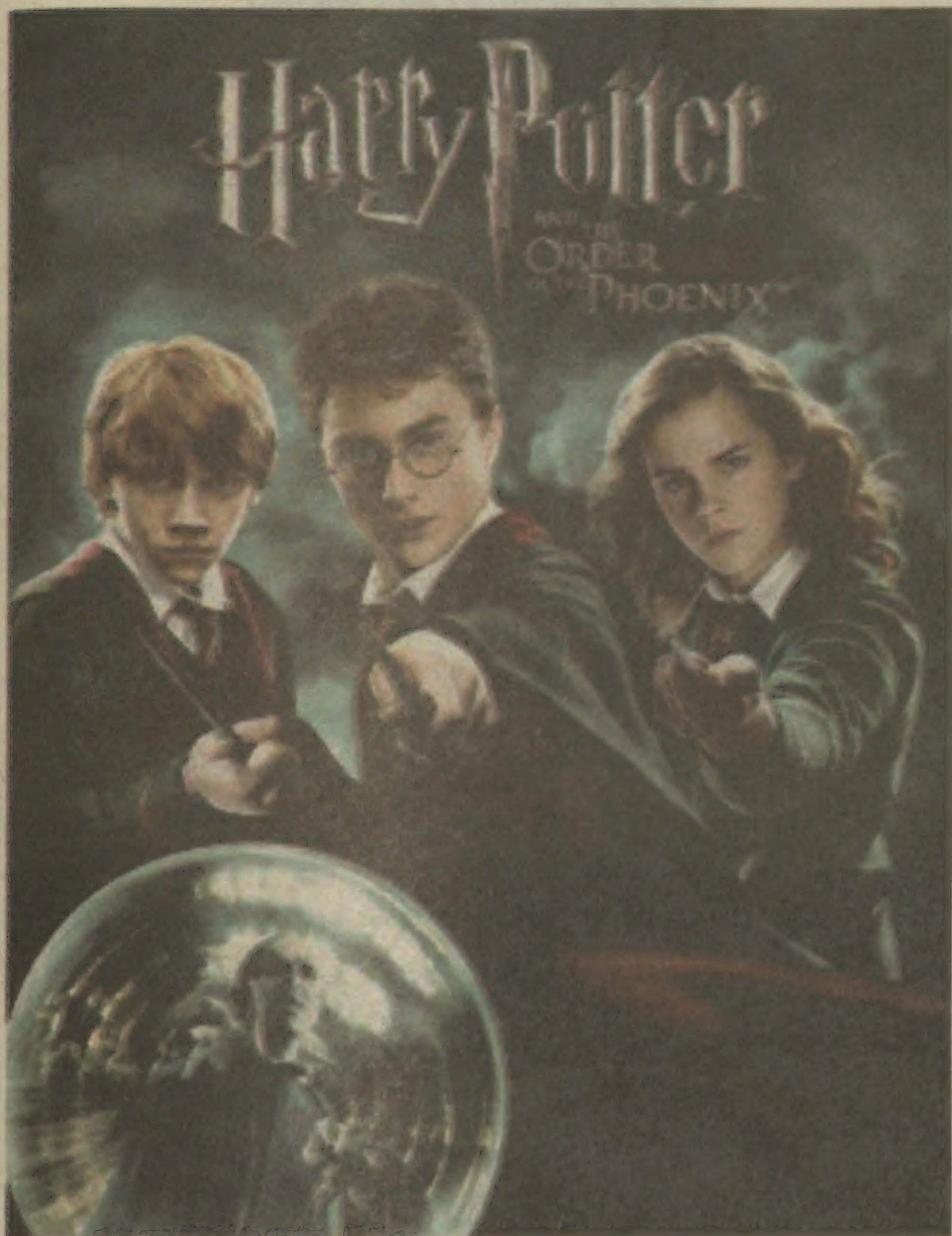
Charley Reed | Arts & Leisure

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arts@unogateway.com | December 7, 2007

## Order of the Phoenix DVD release average, only for longtime fans

CHARLEY REED  
A&L EDITOR



Harry Potter mania may have subsided over the fall months, but the release of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* has arrived just in time for the holiday season. In stores Tuesday, the fifth installment in the film franchise is sure to be on millions of our wish lists this season and the *Gateway* has your sneak peak at the two-disc special edition DVD.

### Video

As a film, *Phoenix* grows on you. Having seen the film for a third time with a multi-month break, I still find it to be one of the better of the series. Granted, it's a darker, more brooding film but what do you expect from a character who no one wants to believe?

The film is reformatted on the DVD in similarly dark, blue-and-black tones, but not quite as crisply as one would like to see. For those of you with a high-def DVD reader, my suggestion is to shell out the extra cash for that version. Warner Bros. certainly makes you wish you had the ability to buy it in Blu-Ray or HD-DVD.

However, this longish film (139 minutes), which goes by fairly slowly until about the halfway point, is still a fun one to watch. The movie is worth the purchase

to just to enjoy the last half hour over and over again, starting with the Weasley twins' fireworks display and ending with the battle with Voldemort in the Ministry of Magic.

### Sound

Available in Dolby Surround 5.1, this is definitely one for the home theater. It's hard to fully appreciate some of the more dramatic sound effects and score otherwise. After all, you certainly aren't going to be buying this DVD for the dialogue.

This film is definitely far more flash than substance. If you own an '80s television set with '70s speakers, this isn't exactly a smart purchase. Unless you have all the DVDs already, or are a hardcore Harry Potter fan, there isn't going to be much in the way of audio-visual performance that is going to persuade you otherwise.

However, if you have access to a flat-screen set, surround sound and theatre-seating then this is well worth the \$35 price tag.

### Extras

Unlike the film, the features are geared more to the casual fan. However, the actual content within the special features-filled second disc isn't all that enthralling.

Featurettes like *The Hidden Secrets of Harry Potter* and *Harry Potter: The Magic of Editing* are neat. However, too many fans already know the series' secrets, making this particular featurette relatively uninteresting. Also, because editing was one of the weakest points of the film, the second featurette isn't very enlightening either.

The *Additional Scenes* feature is nice, but there are only two "scenes" that are worth watching: one where Emma Thompson (Professor Trelawney) fidgets with her food during Dolores Umbridge's opening feast speech and a longer version of the forest scene featuring the sweet but psychotic Umbridge (Imelda Staunton) as she completely breaks down in front of Harry, Ron and Hermione.

The other special feature, *Trailing Tonks*, is actually quite enjoyable. Natalina Tena (Nymphadora Tonks) is a boisterous and comedic personality, which helps, given that some of the more interesting places she shows off are the canteen (café) and her trailer.

### Overall

*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* isn't a terrible DVD release. In fact, it has some pretty nice production values and amusing extras. However,

it almost feels like Warner Bros. knows that everyone will buy this DVD, regardless of how well put together it is. There was obviously more effort put into the HD-DVD and Blu-Ray releases of this film, which makes more sense given they will make more money off of the sales. However, not every Harry Potter fan has an elaborate home theatre set.

I, for one, would enjoy seeing cast and filmmaker commentaries on these films. With so many award-winning actors in one movie, it would be great to see what they thought of working on the film. Each DVD seems to get progressively worse in terms of special features and that's disappointing.

Still, for all its faults, this DVD is a must-buy for the Harry Potter fan in your life this season.

★ ★ ★



rottentomatoes.com



about.com

Natalina Tena, who plays Nymphadora Tonks in *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, gives a backstage tour as one of the DVD's special features.

## Academy of the Arts hits the stage, focuses on culture in Omaha community

NICOLE HIGGINBOTHAM  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Growing and Building Together Academy of the Arts originated in conjunction with the Greater Beth-el Temple, formerly known as the Greater Bethlehem Temple. The academy, which specializes in singing, acting, dancing, narrating and exploring the fine arts, has been active for over 30 years.

In 2006, the organization began performing throughout the Omaha area and at different UNO events. Most recently, the GBT Academy of the Arts performed as part of the Holiday Lights Festival opening ceremonies.

"We are an educational academy," Dr. Mary Goodwin-Clinkscale, executive director of the GBT Academy of the Arts. "The things that we do are based on information that we've been given, things that we've seen, travel, etc. We found entertainment a unique way to take a message or idea and implement it in an unconventional way."

According to the organization's Web site, gbtacademyofthearts.org, "the mission of the GBT Academy of the Arts is to equip our youth with the character values of respect, discipline, teamwork, perseverance and leadership through diverse forms

of artistic expression. These values help develop the whole individual, transitioning them through the performing stage to the stages of life."

Deborah Clute, a UNO alumna, is a member of the GBT Academy of the Arts.

"The GBT Academy had its early beginnings in the church, where I was to be blessed to grow up. I cannot express enough my gratitude for how my involvement in these performances has helped me in my personal life," said Clute. "Though I have had ups and downs in life, the arts has been a positive force instilled within me, whether it was behind the scenes or on the stage. Involvement with the academy has afforded me a stronger sense of self-confidence and more positive self-esteem that I otherwise would be struggling with."

In the Omaha community as a whole, the GBT Academy of the Arts participates in a number of events. One in particular was for the celebration of the African American Heritage and Culture program at the Nebraska Children's Home in February 2007.

"The attendees truly enjoyed the performance," said Tonya Moore, community outreach specialist at the Nebraska Children's Home. "This was my first time seeing a performance by them, and therefore, I did not know what to expect. The strength and



gbtacademyofthearts.org

The Growing and Building Together Academy of the Arts has performed three UNO-centered productions.

character of these individuals was astonishing. They will be invited again next year to perform for our 2008 program."

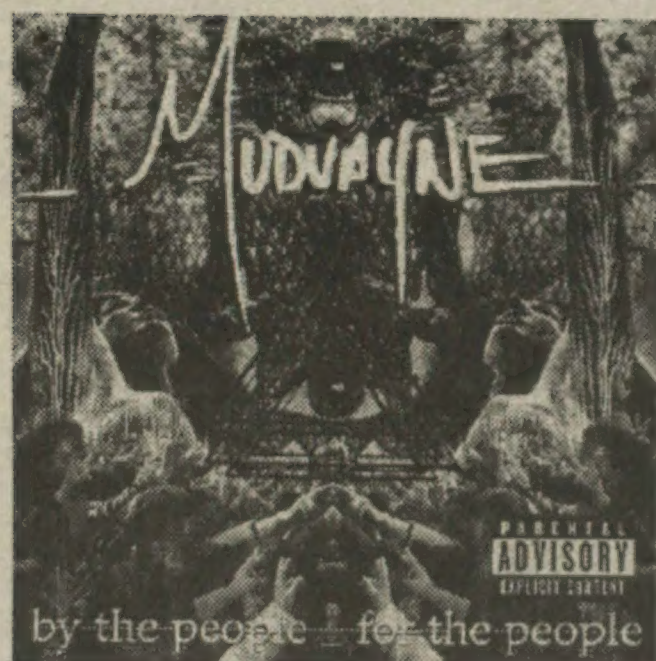
The GBT Academy of the Arts has also had the opportunity to touch UNO personally. In the past years, there have been three performances with UNO ties.

One was in recognition of the Tuskegee Airmen, another served as a historical account of how the Black Studies department came about and the third was a tribute to William Clute, a sociology professor who had worked at the university for over 40 years.



## In short: CD reviews in under 200 words

SEAN DARRELL  
CONTRIBUTOR



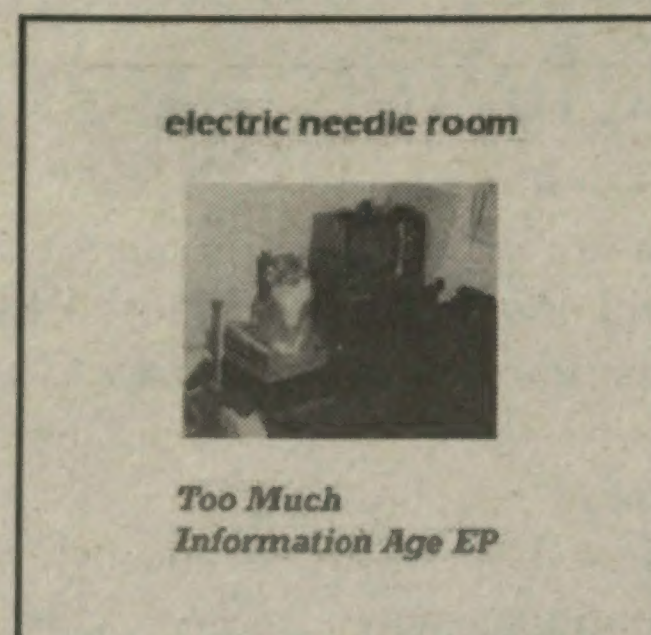
Mudvayne  
*By the People, For the People*

The latest Mudvayne disc, *By the People, For the People*, isn't really a new album. Rather, it's a compilation of eight demo versions of songs from the band's last three releases, three live tracks and five previously unreleased songs.

The demo versions are interesting to hear for Mudvayne fans because you can tell the subtle changes that were made to create the songs you know and love as they are today. The live tracks are typical quality for live recordings, complete with frontman Chad Gray dropping the f-bomb about 12 times before even starting a song.

Each of the 16 songs is introduced by Gray in the preceding track where he gives some background on the song and some funny quips about "drinking and playing music."

The best part of the album, though, is the inclusion of the five unreleased songs: "Dull Boy," "On the Move," "Goodbye," an acoustic version of "Forget to Remember" and a cover of The Police's song "King of Pain." The cover is awesome and alone makes the purchase worthwhile. Those who don't have previous Mudvayne albums probably won't have any reason to buy this, but for fans, this is a great addition.



Electric Needle Room  
*Too Much Information Age EP*

Electric Needle Room, a three-piece indie pop band out of Omaha featuring UNO senior Matt Beat, fuses lyrical observations of mundane annoyances of daily life with some catchy, synthesizer-laden songs that sound like a mix between Springman Records' Amazing Transparent Man and Hopeless Records' Atom and His Package. While the bands' last two CDs were good, the new *Too Much Information Age EP* lacks the kind of polish the first two had.

Granted this is just an EP, but the third track, "American Idol Rejects," really does sound like it was recorded in a basement, unmixed. The vocals are barely audible over the guitar.

The last track's title, "Please Like My Music So I Can Get Rich Off This Crap," speaks for itself. It sounds like a free-for-all towards end of the song with an unintentional everybody-solo.

However, the lyrics are great. You can't help but laugh at the second track, "The Magic is Gone," which complains about the current talent of movie and TV stars. "Ice Cube, what happened to your career, from the hood in Compton to *Are We There Yet.*" Genius.

A decent album, but only for fans of the genre.



Godsmack  
*Good Times, Bad Times... Ten Years of Godsmack*

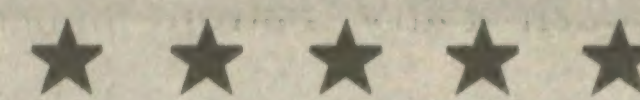
The latest from Godsmack is again, not truly a new album, *Good Times, Bad Times... Ten Years of Godsmack* is simply a greatest-hits compilation. Unfortunately, unlike Mudvayne's compilation album, Godsmack's greatest hits compilation offers only one new song and it is not original work.

The first track, "Good Times, Bad Times," is a Led Zeppelin cover, which Godsmack intended as a tribute to their mentors. The song does have a Godsmack feel to it, but retains the classic rock sound of the original.

The other 15 tracks are remastered versions of all the hits like "Whatever," "Keep Away," "Awake," "I Stand Alone" and "Shine Down." The album even includes "Running Blind" and "Touché" from The Other Side acoustic EP.

The lack of new songs is made up for with the inclusion of the *An Evening with Godsmack* DVD, which includes the entire live acoustic session in Las Vegas. The DVD, which offers 5.1 surround, is great quality; a surprise for a bonus DVD. It features 10 songs, some Q&A from the band and special guest appearance from John Kosco of Dropbox.

A must have for any Godsmack fan.



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# Sports

Jason Sibson | Sports Editor

Page 7

sports@unogateway.com | December 7, 2007

## Mavericks win in convincing fashion over Peru State on Tuesday night

BRETT OSTRONIC  
CONTRIBUTOR

The UNO women's basketball team improved to 1-1 after a 91-50 win over the struggling Bobcats of Peru State Tuesday night at the Sapp Fieldhouse.

The Mavericks were able to jump out to a 24-7 lead against the Lady Bobcats in the first half and never looked back. The Mavs showed tenacity on the defensive side, forcing 10 turnovers, allowing only five second chance points and holding the Lady Bobcats to just 18 percent from the floor en route to a 42-14 lead at the end of the first half.

UNO Sophomore Alyssa Green led all scorers in the first half with 12 points and added eight rebounds and an assist.

The second half mirrored the first half in quickness up and down the court. The Mavs were able to push the ball and show the Bobcats why they deserve their 1-1 record, displaying hustle and excellent shooting from all areas of the court.

Defensively, the Mavs allowed zero second-chance points in the second half.

In all, the Maverick defense forced 23 turnovers, blocked six shots, recorded 12 steals and held the Bobcats to 31 percent shooting from the floor.

"If our defense is great and always tenacious that will impact our offense in a positive manner," said Head Coach Patty Patton.

Shearer feels her team has the depth to turn out a different double-digit scorer on any given night. This will allow the Mavs to excel and achieve more victories throughout the season.

After the game, Green talked about how in sync the team has been this season.

"Our team chemistry is coming a long way working along side each other for these last couple games," Green said. "And we're getting to know one another better."

Green led all scorers with a total of 21 points while grabbing 12 rebounds. Junior guard Lindsey Klug led

all players with seven assists and had no turnovers.

The Mavs next contest will be Dec. 7 at the Sapp Fieldhouse when they host the 2-7 Panthers of York College. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m., with tickets available for free with your UNO student MavCard.



photo by Michelle Bishop  
Junior guard Lindsey Klug pokes the ball away during UNO's 91-50 mauling of Peru State. The Mavs recorded 12 steals in the game.



photo by Michelle Bishop  
LaToya Wright fights for a rebound during Tuesday's win. The Mavs will play at home again Friday, December 7 at 6 p.m.

## Stars, role players, defense: Men's basketball team clicking in early going

COMMENTARY BY  
KEVIN CLEMENS  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO men's basketball team is off to an impressive start, the first time since the 2003-04 season. Not only is this basketball team undefeated but they have done so in impressive fashion, as their six-point win over Missouri Western was their closest match this season.

The Mavericks have been utterly dominating their opponents offensively and defensively as they have dominated almost every statistical category in each game.

Call me crazy, but this record-breaking team's offense draws similar comparisons to that of the Duke Blue Devils. The Blue Devils' pace of play is very fast and up-tempo, much like the Mavericks in the beginning of the season.

With this Maverick basketball team setting school records, as they did in draining 17 out of 36 from Wintown against Billings, they are quite an interesting team to watch. This team is full of versatile scorers from the top of their lineup to the bottom that appear to have the ability to score whenever they want.

The Mavericks are led by the scoring knack of Michael Jenkins. A Bellevue native, Jenkins recently received the North Central Conference player of the week honor by averaging 18.5 points, six rebounds and three assists last week.

Jenkins has a sick ability to get to the basket whenever he wants. He uses his body to draw the contact from opposing players and get to the line, which he's done close to 10 times per game this season.

Jenkins, who finished fifth in the nation last season in free-throw percentage, has simply picked up where he left off last season. The junior baller is averaging career highs in all statistical categories this season. He is averaging nearly 20 points per game and just over five rebounds per game. With so many great shooters on this team, it opens up the floor even more for Jenkins.

Jenkins is not the only one having career highs as the season progresses. Senior Jerry Bennett is playing like the big man on campus, recording two double-doubles in four games during his final season as a Maverick. Bennett is averaging nearly a double-double on the season, with nine points and nine rebounds per game thus far. The Mavericks will certainly look for Bennett to play big minutes as the season rolls on.

The other senior on this team, Denny Johnston, is also having a stellar season. Johnston, who is tied for second on the team in minutes per game, has consistently shown the ability to fill up the stat line. The senior forward is

shooting a team-leading 47 percent from beyond the arc and ranks second on the team in rebounds per game with seven. This stat machine is also third on the team in assists, averaging over two per game.

This team is full of many other versatile scorers that are yet to be stopped. Andrew Bridger is second on the team in points, averaging 14 per game. Bridger also leads the team in assists on the season.

The bench is also full of scorers and great shooters. Mitch and Tyler Albers, along with Justin Peterson, certainly open up the floor with their deadly 3-point shooting. It's no wonder that the Mavs broke the single-game school record for 3-pointers with so many talented shooters on this team.

Head Coach Derrin Hansen certainly has this team playing impressive basketball as of late and I don't see this run stopping anytime soon. This team has truly meshed in the early going by playing unselfish team basketball.

Not only is this Maverick basketball team unbeaten, they have thumped some stiff competition along the way during this early stretch of perfection. UNO beat then-No. 3 Northwest Missouri State 80-66 just last week. Northwest had been riding a very impressive 18-game home winning streak before losing at home to the Mavericks.

I encourage you to go and watch this team play ball. They play with impressive charisma and style.

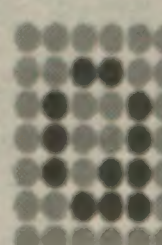
The Mavs play this weekend against Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association opponent Emporia State at 7 p.m. in the Sapp Fieldhouse. Come out and watch your Mavericks try to improve to 7-0 on the season.

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**Job Description:**  
Assist in assessment, development and implementation of Campus Recreation promotions and Marketing plans.

**Qualification Requirements:**  
Must possess genuine interest in promoting the various activities offered by Campus Recreation, have strong interpersonal skills, excellent verbal and written communication skills, experience with Adobe programs, and he/she must show confidence in making presentations to groups or talking to individuals at information tables.

**Contact:**  
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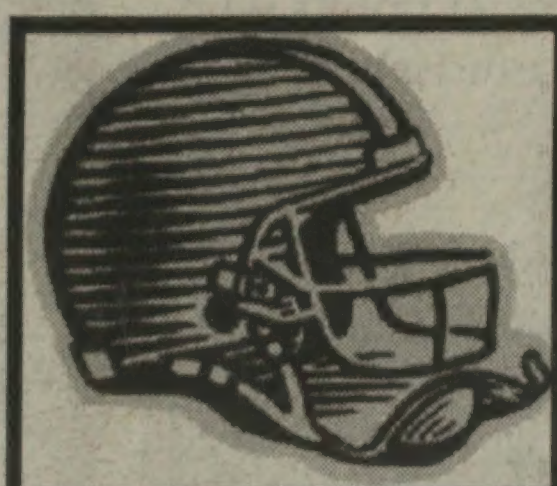
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-Amanda Kriener, Promotions Coordinator  
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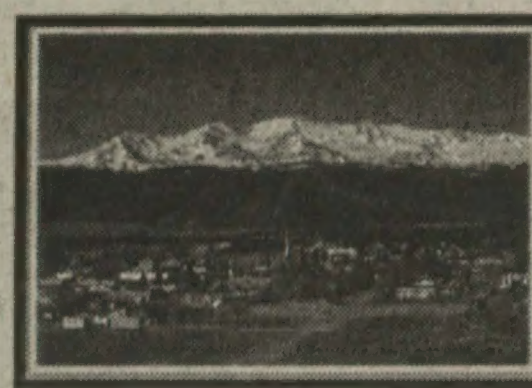
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Instructor: Jeannie

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Rm 230  
Instructor: Vaughnda

Tuesday, Jan. 8

Pilates Fusion  
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Rm 230  
Instructor: Jeannie

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